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"Origin of Some Desert Basins," by N. H. Darton.

"The Natural History of Ancient Vinland, and its Geographic Significance," by M. L. Fernald.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION (AT 8:30, 61 PARK AVE.)

"Early American Geography," by George A. Plimpton.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION (FROM TEN O'CLOCK TO TWELVE-THIRTY)

"Argentina and the Argentines," by Bailey Willis.

"Winter Weather as a Factor in the Great War," by R. DeC. Ward.

"The Muir Glacier in 1911 and 1913," by Lawrence Martin.

PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

At the Seattle meeting of the Pacific Association in May, 1914, the new constitution for a Western Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was accepted and recommended to the constituent societies for their adoption. It was determined that a two thirds vote would be necessary for adoption; that if this vote was secured before the meeting of the American Association at San Francisco in August, 1915, the work of the Pacific Association would be given over to the Western Division at the end of the August meeting, provided the Western Division was organized and ready at that time to continue the work of the Pacific Association. On March 20, 1915, the required two thirds vote was secured, and the Pacific Association is now ready as soon as the constitution is signed by the officers of the voting constituent societies to turn over the work to the new Division at the end of the August meeting of the American Association. The following societies adopted the new constitution in the following order: Biological Society of the Pacific Coast, Pacific Coast Paleontological Society, The Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America, The Seismological Society of America, Astronomical Society of

the Pacific, The Technical Society of the Pacific Coast, The Cooper Ornithological Club, California Academy of Sciences, Puget Sound Section of the American Chemical Society, The Pacific Slope Association of Economic Entomologists, San Francisco Society of the Archeological Institute of America, and the San Francisco Section of the American Mathematical Society—twelve societies in all. The following societies rejected the constitution: The Philological Society of the Pacific Coast, and the San Francisco Section of the American Chemical Society. The Geographical Society of the Pacific did not reply. The Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association will decide the question late in 1915.

Dr. Campbell, president of the American Association, has already appointed a committee to effect the organization of the division, and it will be ready in August to receive the work and the archives of the Pacific Association which will in this manner terminate a five years of active work.

J. N. BURMAN,

Secretary of the Pacific Association

SEATTLE,

March 30, 1915

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. IRA REMSEN, president emeritus of Johns Hopkins University, will deliver the principal address at the formal opening of the new chemistry building of the University of Minnesota, on May 24.

At the recent commemoration day exercises at the Johns Hopkins University there was presented to the university by a committee of which Dr. William S. Halsted, professor of surgery, was chairman, a portrait in oil by Mr. Seyffert, of Philadelphia, of Dr. Franklin P. Mall, professor of anatomy in the university. Dr. Lewellys L. Barker, professor of medicine, made the presentation address.

PROFESSOR CHARLES S. WILSON, of the Cornell School of Agriculture, has been nominated by Governor Whitman as New York state commissioner of agriculture.

OFFICERS of the Royal Astronomical Society have been elected as follows: *President*, R. A.